

REMARKS

Claims in the case are 2 and 8-14 upon entry of this amendment. Claims 1 and 3-7 have been cancelled, Claim 2 has been amended, and Claims 8-14 have been added herein. Claim 2 has been amended to change its dependency from cancelled Claim 1 to added Claim 8.

The title of the specification has been changed to correspond with that of the related International Patent Application No. PCT/EP00/04968, and International Patent Publication No. WO 00/75922 A1. A separate page containing an Abstract of the Disclosure is enclosed herewith.

The present amendment seeks to place the application in better conformance with U.S. practice. Entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By



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VERSIONS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

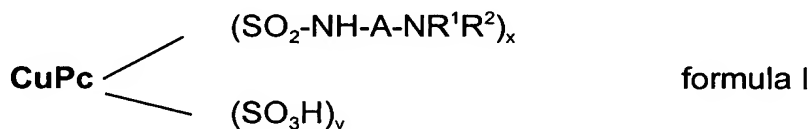
IN THE ABSTRACT:

The following abstract is included herewith on a separate page.

**USE OF CU-PHTHALOCYANINE SULFONAMIDES AS DYE FOR WRITE-ONCE
OPTICAL DATA STORAGE MEANS**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A write-once optical data carrier is disclosed. The carrier includes a transparent substrate, a writable information layer applied to a surface of the substrate and an optional reflection layer. The writable information layer contains a Cu-phthalocyanine sulfonamide dye represented by the following formula I.



IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The title at lines 1 and 2 on page 1 of the specification has been amended as follows.

[Use of Cu phthalocyanine sulfonamides as dyes for write-once optical data stores]

**USE OF CU-PHTHALOCYANINE SULFONAMIDES AS DYE FOR WRITE-ONCE
OPTICAL DATA STORAGE MEANS**

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) [An] The optical data carrier of [according to] Claim 8 [1, characterised in that] wherein mixtures of phthalocyanine dyes represented by [of the] general formula (I) are present in the writable information layer.

3. (Cancelled)

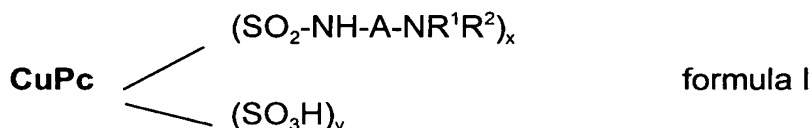
4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Added) An optical data carrier comprising a transparent substrate, a writable information layer applied to a surface of said substrate and an optional reflection layer, said writable information layer containing at least one phthalocyanine dye of the general formula I,



in which

CuPc represents a copper phthalocyanine group,

A represents an optionally substituted straight chain or branched C₂-C₈ alkylene,

R¹ and R², independently represent a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, straight chain or branched C₁-C₆ alkylene, substituted C₁-C₆ hydroxyalkyl, and an unsubstituted C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or R¹ and R², together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bonded denote a heterocyclic 5- or 6-membered ring, optionally containing another heteroatom

x is 2.0 to 4.0,

y is 0 to 1.5 and

and the sum of x and y is 2.0 to 4.0.

9. (Added) A process for producing the optical data carrier of Claim 8 comprising applying to a surface of a transparent substrate a solvent mixture containing a phthalocyanine dye of the general formula I to form a writable information layer.

10. (Added) The process according to Claim 9 wherein the solvent mixture contains a member selected from the group consisting of benzyl alcohol, water acidified with acetic acid and fluorinated alcohol.

11. (Added) The process according to Claim 10 wherein the fluorinated alcohol is 2,2,3,3-tetrafluoropropanol.

12. (Added) The process of Claim 9 wherein said solvent mixture is prepared by,

- (a) first dissolving the dye in a solvent selected from the group consisting of benzyl alcohol, water acidified with acetic acid and fluorinated alcohol to form a solution; and
- (b) then diluting the solution with a member selected from the group consisting of alcohols, ethers, hydrocarbons, halogenated hydrocarbons, CELLOSOLVE ethylene glycol alkyl ethers and ketones.

13. (Added) The process of Claim 12 wherein the fluorinated alcohol of step (a) is 2,2,3,3-tetrafluoropropanol; the alcohol of step (b) is selected from at least one of methanol, ethanol, propanol, diacetone alcohol and 1-methyl-2-propanol; the hydrocarbons of step (b) are selected from at least one of hexane, cyclohexane, ethylcyclohexane and octane; the halogenated hydrocarbons of step (b) are selected from at least one of tetrachloroethane and dichloromethane; the ethers of step (b) are selected from at least one of diethyl ether, dipropyl ether and dibutyl ether; the CELLOSOLVE ethylene glycol alkyl ethers of step (b) are selected from at

least one of ethylene glycol methyl ether and ethylene glycol ethyl ether; and the ketones of step (b) are selected from at least one of methylethyl ketone and 4-hydroxy-4-methyl-2-pentanone.

14. (Added) The process of Claim 9 wherein the writable information layer is applied by spin-coating.